

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

DRC-01 OIC-04 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 /209 W

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R 190955Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2221

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE VIEWS ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: FONOFF (TSURUMI) AND MITI (AMAYA) TOLD EMBASSY THEY
PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF ENERGY CONFERENCE. BOTH INDICATED THAT
JAPAN HAD ACHIEVED THEIR OBJECTIVES, PARTICULARLY IN
AVOIDING IMPRESSION OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND
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CONSUMERS. ALTHOUGH BOTH SIDESTEPED ASSESS-

MENT OF FRENCH PERFORMANCE, TSURUMI FELT IT POSSIBLE FRANCE
WOULD NOT ATTEND INTIAL COORDINATING GROUP MEETINGS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON FEB 19 CHARGE' CALLED ON FONOFF DEPUTY VICE
MINISTER TSURUMI TO OBTAIN LATTER'S REACTION TO ENERGY
CONFERENCE. CHARGE' OPENED CONVERSATION BY CONVEYING GENUINE
APPRECIATION OF USG FOR POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION OF FONMIN
OHIRA AND GOJ DELEGATION AT CONFERENCE. TSURUMI OBVIOUSLY
PLEASED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD PERSONALLY EXPRESSED HIS
THANKS TO OHIRA AFTER CONFERENCE.

2. IN OVERALL TERMS TSURUMI INDICATED THAT GOJ WELL SATIS-
FIED WITH RESULTS OF CONFERENCE. HE SAID JAPAN HAD
ACHIEVED ITS OBJECTIVES, PARTICULARLY IN AVOIDING IM-
PRESSION OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CON-
SUMERS. THIS HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, HE SAID, IN PART BY
JAPANESE EFFORTS, WORKING LARGELY WITH CANADIAN
DELEGATION.

3. WITH REFERENCE TO PRICE QUESTION, TSURUMI SAID THIS
ISSUE WAS AT BACK OF MIND OF ALL DELEGATIONS, BUT HE DID
NOT FORESEE THAT CONSUMERS WOULD COME TO GRIPS WITH IT
UNTIL MUCH MORE ANALYTICAL WORK HAD BEEN DONE.

4. TSURUMI NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO REACTION BY
ARAB COUNTRIES FOLLOWING CONFERENCE BEYOND VARIOUS
PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY OPEC SECRETARIAT, ABOUT WHICH
HE APPEARED QUITE UNCONCERNED.

5. IN RESPONSE TO CHARGE'S QUESTION, TSURUMI SAID THAT
HIS IDEAS ABOUT OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE ARE SHARED WITHIN
GOJ. HE ALSO AGREED THAT JAPANESE PRESS REACTION SINCE
CONFERENCE, AS OPPOSED TO REACTION BEFORE CONFERENCE,
HAD BEEN GOOD.

6. WITH REFERENCE TO FRENCH PERFORMANCE AT CONFERENCE,
TSURUMI NOTED THAT SOME OF FRENCH OBJECTIONS WERE ON
MATTERS OF FORM RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE, E.G. ABSENCE OF
REFERENCE TO OECD IN PARA 9 ON R & D PROGRAMS (EMBASSY NOTES
THAT SAME POINT MADE BY GOF TO EMBASSY PARIS, SEE PARIS
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4181). SIMILARLY, HE ASSERTED FRENCH OBJECTION TO PART
OF PARA 10 ON AVOIDING COMPETITIVE DEPRECIATION AND
ESCALATION OF TRADE AND PAYMENTS RESTRICTIONS DID NOT
REFLECT DISAGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE, SINCE GOF HAD ALREADY
AGREED TO SIMILAR STATEMENT AT C-20 MEETING, BUT RATHER
FRENCH UNWILLINGNESS SEE REFERENCE TO THIS SUBJECT AT CON-
FERENCE. MORE BASIC FRENCH OBJECTION, ACCORDING TO TSURUMI,
WAS TO PARAS 16 AND 17. TSURUMI APPEARED TO HAVE LITTLE

SYMPATHY FOR FRENCH POSITION AND NOTED THAT FONMIN JOBERT'S
OPENING SPEECH AT PLENARY SESSION PROVIDED UNWARRANTED
IRRITANT TO CONFERENCE.

7. WITH REFERENCE TO FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS, TSURUMI FELT IT
POSSIBLE FRANCE WOULD DECLINE ATTEND INITIAL COORDINATING
GROUP MEETING SINCE IT NEEDED QTE COOLING OFF PERIOD UNQTE.
SIMILARLY, ACCORDING TO MITI OFFICIAL (AMAYA) EC PRESIDENT
ORTOLI TOLD MITI MINISTER NAKASONE FEB 18 HE THOUGHT FRANCE WOULD
NOT ATTEND COORDINATING GROUP MEETING.

8. TSURUMI ALSO NOTED THAT GOF HAD BEEN UPSET BY REMARKS
ATTRIBUTED TO FONOFF PRESS SPOKESMAN THAT GOJ REGRETTED
FRANCE'S RESERVATIONS ON COMMUNIQUE AND THAT FRENCH
EMBASSY HAD PROTESTED TO FONOFF.

9. TSURUMI SEEMED PLEASED THAT CONSENSUS REACHED ON ISSUE OF
BILATERAL DEALS, NOTING THAT USG HAD NOT OPPOSED PRINCIPLE
OF BILATERAL DEALS AND THAT ALL DELEGATIONS HAD GENERALLY
SIMILAR IDEAS ON THIS ISSUE.

10. TSURUMI FORESAW DIFFICULT ROAD AHEAD FOR COORDINATING
GROUP. HE FELT MOST DIFFICULT TASK WOULD BE TO PERSUADE
PRODUCERS TO ATTEND ENLARGED CONFERENCE OF PRODUCERS AND
CONSUMERS.

11. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION FEB 19
WITH ECON/COUNS, AMAYA (DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS DEPT, INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY BUREAU, MITI) EXPRESSED
SATISFACTION WITH RESULTS OF CONFERENCE. HE STATED THAT GOJ'S
CONCERNS HAD BEEN OVER ISSUES OF OIL PRICES, BILATERAL
DEALS AND FOLLOW UP AND THAT GOJ HAD ACHIEVED ITS
OBJECTIVES ON ALL THREE POINTS.
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